the RARS Exciter

Raleigh Amateur Radio Society

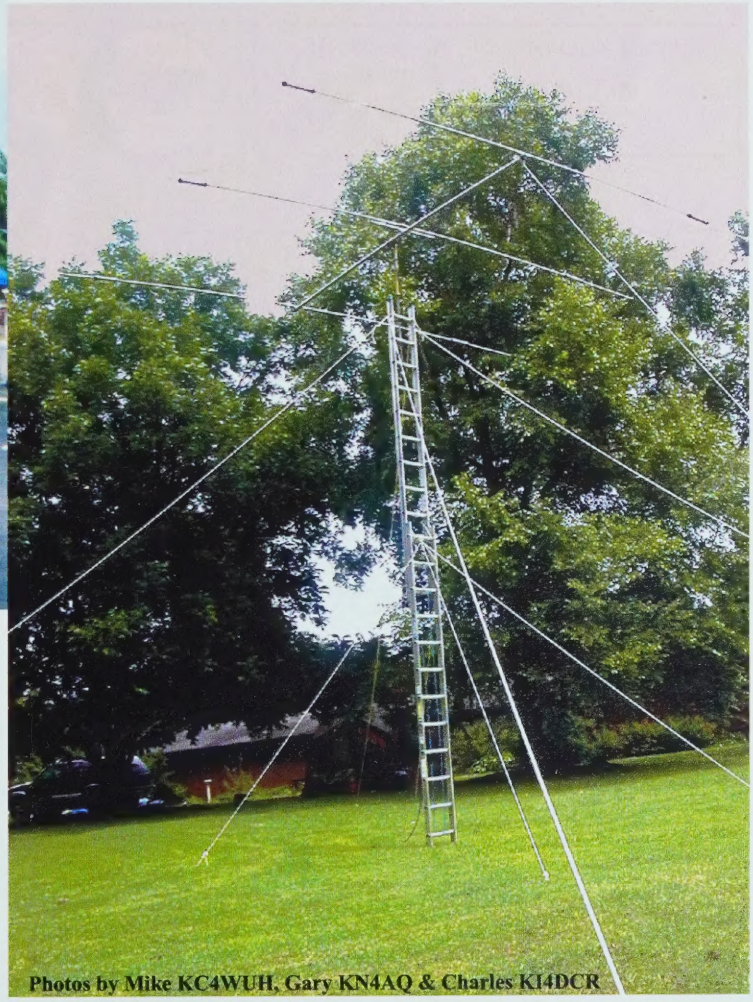
RARS

Worldwide Friendship

August, 2004 Number 400

Hurricane Fair
June 19, 2004

Tom N4TAB shooting line for Dipole



Photos by Mike KC4WUH, Gary KN4AQ & Charles KI4DCR

FIELD DAY
June 26, 2004

The Exciter

The ***Exciter*** is the monthly newsletter of the Raleigh Amateur Radio Society. It is available in both printed and electronic form. The printed version is mailed to members just before each club meeting. The electronic form, in Adobe Acrobat PDF format, is e-mailed about a week earlier.

We solicit both articles and advertising. The deadline for submissions is the day after the monthly meeting. Contact the Editor.

The views contained in the Exciter are those of the individual authors and are not necessarily the views of the Editor or the Raleigh Amateur Radio Society.

The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society

The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society, Inc. (RARS) was founded in 1969 and continues to serve and support the Amateur Radio community in the greater Triangle area. In 1999, we incorporated a new RARS, and obtained 501(c)(3) Non-Profit tax status.

The objectives of the club are to promote worldwide friendship through Amateur Radio; to be of public service by providing radio communications in times of disaster, emergency, or civic need; to educate members in radio technique; and to provide training classes to assist in obtaining Amateur Radio licenses.

Anyone interested in Amateur Radio is eligible to apply for membership. Dues for regular licensed amateurs are $18.00 per year (from July 1 through June 30). Additional immediate family members pay $5.00 each per year. Dues for licensed amateurs older than 59 or younger than 16 are $12.00 per year. Dues for non-licensed Associate members are $9.00 per year.

Applications for membership may be obtained from the treasurer or the RARS web site (www.rars.org).

EXCITER EDITOR: **Denyse Walter**
K4DAW
919-468-5358
k4daw@nc.rr.com

SPECIAL SERVICE CLUB

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: **Andy Peterson NI4S**
919-845-6251
ni4s@arrl.net

VICE-PRESIDENT **Dick Bitner W8HYD**
919-872-6802
ncsol@bellsouth.net

SECRETARY: **Virginia Enzor KG4PFA**
919-469-8555
kg4pfa@aol.com

TREASURER: **Greg Seamster KE4PAX**
919-859-0029
ke4pax@arrl.net

RARS Repeaters in Raleigh:
145.13 (82.5 PL)
146.64
224.64 (Temporarily off the air)
444.525 (82.5 PL)

WEB SITE www.rars.org

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

Two weekends, two fun events to practice our skills and show off Ham Radio to the public. Thanks to everyone who came out to operate or help set up at the Hurricane Preparedness Fair and Field Day.

While rather different, these two events both featured hams working together to setup temporary stations in the field. The fact that we can build stations quickly and be completely self-contained is quite remarkable.
I know I saw a lot of neat tricks and techniques over both weekends, and perhaps you did too

If you'd like to see some program material about station setup, or perhaps an operating technique you saw, let me or one of the officers know.

Until next time, 73 - Good Luck - QRZ Field Day

The Exciter goes to the printer the first Monday after the general meeting. Electronic mailing is the same week. Printing and mailing may vary.

The RARS 145.13 Repeater is waiting for YOU! PL 82.5 Tone

RALEIGH AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY MEETINGS

Date: ***Every first Tuesday of the Month***
Location: ***Forest Hills Baptist Church, at Dixie Trail and Clark Avenue, in Raleigh***
Time: ***7:30pm. Folks start showing up a bit before 7 to chat, brag and eat donuts.***

VE Testing: The RARS VEs will accept walk-in testing at the February, May, August and November RARS meetings, at the RARSfest in April, the Cary Swapfest in July and the JARSfest in November, and following RARS license classes. Please bring a photo ID and the original copy of your current license, plus any CSCEs you have for credit. Please refer to www.rars.org for more information.

Announcements

NEXT RARS MEETINGS:
AUGUST 3, 2004
DXpedition Presented by Andy NI4S

REPORTER NEEDED

THE EXCITER NEEDS A REPORTER OR TWO TO WRITE STORIES ABOUT HAM ACTIVITIES IN RARS AND THE TRIANGLE AREA.

Public Service Event:
September 11-12 MS150 in New Bern, NC. Plan on the event now to get a room in the area before it's too late. We need several ham operators for this event.

DID YOU KNOW.....

There is a dinner once a month, known as the RARS Dinner, where hams and non-hams get together to eat, socialize and become better acquainted.

Are you looking for a ham-related activity that your spouse, date, or family can participate in, even if they don't want to be an amateur radio operator? This is it. Do you want to meet interesting, likeable people in a nice environment? This is for you.

Come join us on the 4th Tuesday of each month. We are currently meeting in the private dining room at the Golden Corral, 6129 Glenwood Avenue. People start arriving around 6:30 P.M., and things usually wind down by 8 P.M. or so. You can come whenever it's convenient for you. This gathering is open to anyone, RARS and non-RARS members, adults and children alike. Hope to see you there.

DUES ARE DUE
Renew online at
www.rars.org

RARS MEMBERSHIP DUES

Membership renewals and new membership dues can be paid at RARS meetings, on-line at the RARS website, or mailed to the RARS treasurer. Mail To:

Greg Seamster RARS Treasurer
1405 Leanne Court
Raleigh, NC 27606

RARS now accepts credit card payments online for new members and membership renewals. See the RARS website (www.rars.org) for more information. You can join or renew for 1, 2, or 3 years.

GENERAL MEETING

July 6, 2004

President Andy Peterson, NI4S, called the meeting to order at 7:44 p.m. Visitors were welcomed.

President Andy Peterson made the following announcements:

Anyone interested in volunteering for the Triangle Triathlon at Lake Crabtree Park on Sunday, July 11, may go to the hampublicservice.org website for further information.

Volunteers will be needed for the NC State Fair in October.

Field Day Report: Neal Fisher, N4HAF, and Andy Peterson, NI4S, reported that there were 2600 QSOs for a total of 7,682 points during Field Day.

Treasurer's Report: Greg Seamster, KE4PAX, reported that there were 279 members as of June 30, and he reminded members that renewals are due. The budget for 2004-05 was presented and approved by the general membership.

Program: Vice President Dick Bitner, W8HYD, introduced speaker Greg Fishel, Chief Meteorologist at WRAL. Greg gave on an informative program on weather forecasting and technology at WRAL and then fielded questions from the audience. At the close of the program, Denyse, K4DAW, presented him with a Skywarn t-shirt. Door prizes were won by Matt, KG4MYD; Joe, W4TTO; Virginia, KG4PFA; and Neal, N4HAF.The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m. Respectfully submitted, Virginia, KG4PFA, Secretary

Photos by Jim K4FIJ

Greg Fishel WRAL news at 11:00

Target Your Market

Our Complete Line of Direct Mail and Printing Services Include:

- Custom Design & Layout
- Professional Printing
- Mailing Lists Residential & Commercial
- Mailing Labels
- Ink Jet Addressing
- Sorting - Folding
- Inserting - Metering
- Hand Signatures
- *Personal Service*

One-Stop Shopping Convenience

HPM
HIGH PERFORMANCE MARKETING
"For All Your Direct Mail & Printing Needs"
919-870-9915

J. Jay Langley
PO Box 97744
Raleigh, NC 27624
fax: 919-844-0871
PostcardS@bellsouth.net

Hurricane Fair & Kids Day

Steve KJ4BX & Dick W8HYD background Lillian KC4AYH

Information on StormReady-weather preparedness

Dick KD4ISC and Dick W8HYD with kids making contact on 2 meter and HF

Richard KF4EAH & Wool E. Bull

Bob WX4MMM, Virginia KG4PFA, Wool E Bull-Durham Bulls & Gary Stephenson, chief meteorologist for News 14 Carolina

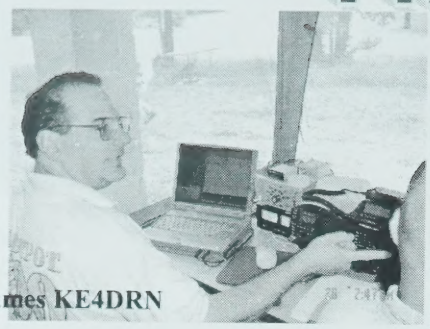
Ham equipment for emergencies

Gary KN4AQ, Mark N4MQU, Richard KF4EAH

Photos by Mike KC4WUH & Bob K4RLC

FIELD DAY 2004

Photos by Martin KI4CFS
Charles KI4DCR & Steve
KJ4BX


James KE4DRN

Andy NI4S

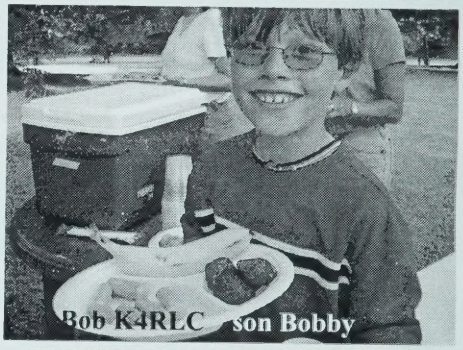
Neil's rig N4HAF

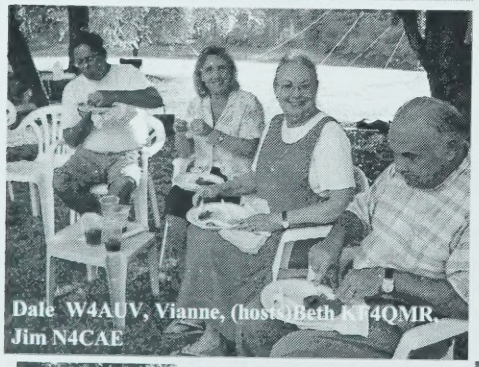
40 Meter Joey KE4DRJ, Mike WA4BPJ

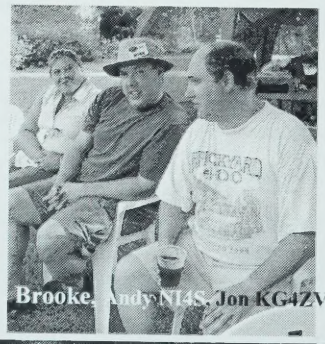
Kerrell W4KGL, Jeff AC4ZO

Mike KC4WUH

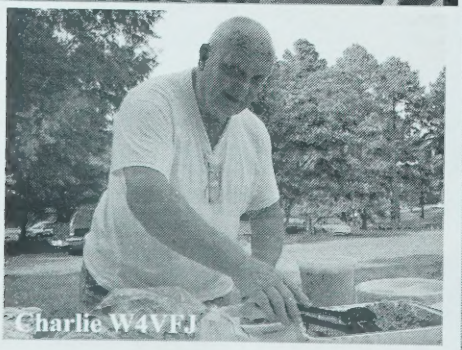
K4RLC & family


Bob K4RLC son Bobby


Dale W4AUV, Vianne, (host) Beth KI4QMR, Jim N4CAE


Brooke, Andy NI4S, Jon KG4ZVT

Mike N2SRO & Melissa


Charlie W4VFJ

Eating time at field day

Kerrell W4KGL

LOOKing Back 30 Years

Taken from the July 1974 Exciter

On August 7, 1974, Raleigh Amateur Radio Society made history when 3 new members joined the club to make it 100 members.

LOOKing Back 10 Years

Taken from the July 1994 Exciter

The five year plan is put into place for RARS. Lightning damaged 146.64/444.525 antenna. It was repaired with another Diamond antenna that was supposed to be installed in Apex. DXClay 145.09 and CLAY 445.15 packet nodes were hit by lightening as a severe thunderstorm passed through Clayton.

Traffic is being rerouted via Rocky Mount KO4PE to the East. The summer VHF opening between Hawaii and California had produced a new 2304 MHz world distance record. On July 11, 1994 UTC Chip Angle , N6CA, and Paul Lieb, KH6HME, made a two-way CW contact on the band.

146.88 145.39, 147.105, & 147.135 Repeaters are supported by PCRN if you would like to donate please make checks to:

PCRN
PO Box 12734
Raleigh, NC 27605

More info on PCRN: www.pcrn.net

RARS NEW MEMBERS

June 2004

We would like to welcome our new members to RARS. Thank you for considering us for your amateur radio club.

Hans WB4SMC
George WA4EKJ

NET REPORTS FOR JUNE 2004

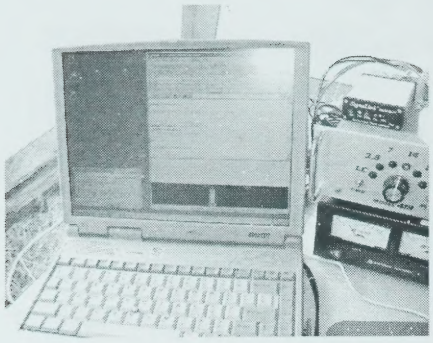
8:00PM DAILY: RARS Evening Net

Participants 476
Traffic 37/35
Time 794 minutes
Sessions 30

8:30PM SAT: Tech & Traders Net
9:00PM MON: SWL/SIG

Participants 54
Traffic 0/0
Time 361 Minutes
Sessions 9

MORE FIELD DAY 2004

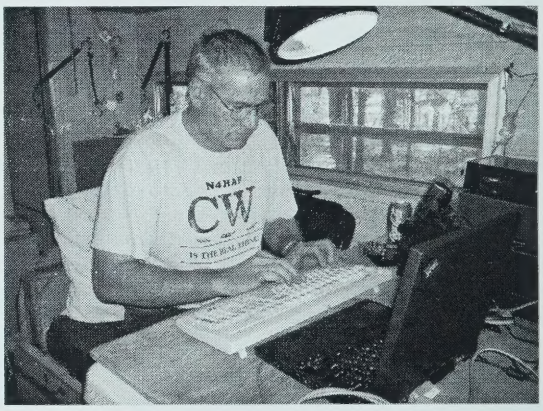


Digital Equipment

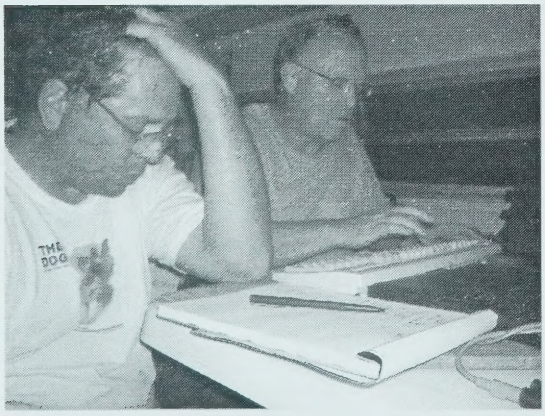
Marriott Motel Charles KI4DCR

Charlie W4VFJ & Bob K4RLC

Mike WD4MB, James KE4DRN
Standing Charles KI4DCR, Tim W4TME

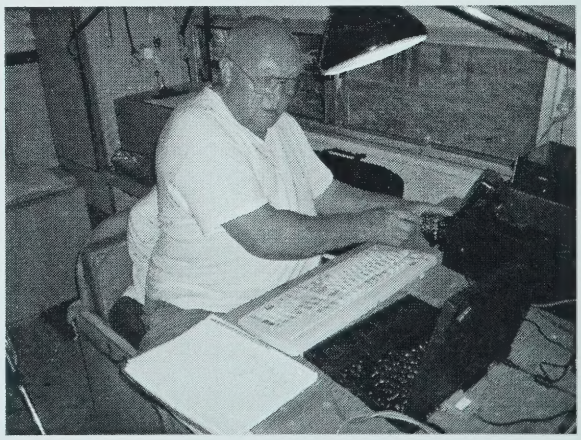


Field Day Chairman Neal N4HAF



Dale W4AUV and Bob K4RLC

Photos by Martin KI4CFS
Charles KI4DCR, Steve
KJ4BX & Bob K4RLC



Charlie W4VFJ

Minutes of the RARS Board Meeting
May 18, 2004

The RARS board meeting was held at the Forest Hills Baptist Church on Tuesday, May 18, 2004. Members present were KG4PFA, K4HF, K4MJL, WA9SZL, K4HM, KG4RMT, KN4AQ, NI4S, KE4PAX, KA2FWC, and KG4FIJ.

President Andy Peterson, NI4S, called the meeting to order at approximately 7:30 p.m.

The minutes from the April meeting were presented, amended, and approved.

Officers Reports

Treasurer's Report (KE4PAX): There are currently 276 members.
Vice President's Report (W8HYD): No report
Committee Reports
FM Committee (KA2FWC): Efforts continue to secure a 220 Mhz repeater.
Exciter (KG4CXR): In absence of KG4CXR, KG4FIJ reported. A discussion was had about how to improve the timely delivery of the Exciter.
Net Manager (KG4OQA): No report
Web Master (W4NOT): No report
Membership (KG4CXR): No report
Hamfest (K4HM): A wrap-up meeting was held on Sunday, April 25.
Field Day (N4HAF): In absence of N4HAF, NI4S reported that there is a need for more band captains.
Public Information: (KN4AQ) There will be story in the Sunday Journal section of *The News and Observer* in May about BPL and ham radio.
Education (K4RLC):
In absence of K4RLC, NI4S reported that planning is going well for the Hurricane Preparedness Fair at Lowes in Raleigh, on Saturday, June 19. "Kid's Day" will be combined with this event and needs to be publicized.
location for classes was discussed.
VE Team (WA4GIR/KO4CK): No report
Public Service (K1RCB): No report
ARRL Liaison (K4HF): Nothing to report
Nominating Committee (K4HF): Nothing to report
W4DW/W4RNC Trustee (AC4ZO): No report
At Large Directors (KG4FIJ, KG4RMT, WA9SZL):

A concern was shared that some members would like to see programs of a more technical nature, i.e. batteries, antennas, etc.
A suggestion was made that net controls announce the program topic in advance of the meeting.
A concern was brought about the absence of refreshments at the last general meeting.
A question was raised about a timetable for the next set of classes.

Special or Ad Hoc Committees: KE4PAX reported that he would coordinate a time with K4HM and W4NOT for a financial review.

Unfinished Business

Treasurer Greg Seamster, KE4PAX, handed out a draft budget for fiscal year 2004-2005 and went over it. A motion was made by K4HF and seconded by K4HM that the budget be approved by the board. It will be presented to the general membership in June for approval.

New Business
None
Board Members Comments
Gary Pearce, KN4AQ, gave an update on BPL.

A motion was made by KA2FWC to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 pm.
Respectfully submitted,
Virginia Enzor, KG4PFA, Secretary

New Ham's First Experience of Field Day!

By Martin KI4CFS

This was my first Field Day. I only stayed a little bit and had a great time. Charles (KI4DCR), Mike (KC4WUH) and I all went together to see the big event. I had a full workday and said I could go if we just stayed an hour. Charles had a bunch of extra drinks to donate to the cause and offered to drive. We were having so much fun that before we knew it, we had been there over two hours.

The first station I saw was the 20 meter phone; I was really impressed with how they got the large antenna up and attached to a ladder supported by guy wires. It was huge. It was the first time I saw such a large antenna up close.

Then we went to the digital tent (WD4MB, KE4DRN, W4TME) and listened to the squealing of digital. It was exciting to see the words slowly show up on the screen as the "contact was made"! The guys were really open to answering our many questions, and I got a few tips on a web site to learn more about digital.

In the next tent was AC4ZO sending code. Charles (KI4DCR) noted how fast his hand was moving on the paddle. Knowing I am learning code, Charles asked if I could copy any of the code. I said it just a blur to me. We headed back into the woods to find the Hilton of code. Neil N4HAFand Bob K4RLC were in an air-conditioned camper using a keypad to make CW contact in style.

The last place we saw was the 40 meter station. We got to use a spare set of headphones to hear the contacts coming in. They were not waiting for a contact; they were going for them aggressively like a well tuned team. One man was attempting to make contact, and the other one was verifying and recording the results. It really was a lot of fun, and I look forward to having my General license next year so I can participate from both the site and my home on an IC-706MKIIG. We all left more excited about HF. Thanks to all who put time into setting this up!

Be well, Martin Brossman, KI4CFS

Mike KD4MB. James KE4DRN, Standing Martin KI4CFS and Thomas W4TME with digital at field day

HAMFEST CALENDAR

July 17	**Cary, NC**
July 31	Roanoke, VA
July 31	Waynesville, NC
September 4-5	Shelby, NC
September 18-19	Virginia Bch, VA
October 10*	Maysville, NC
October 23	Sumpter, SC
October 30	Myrtle Beach, SC
November 13	Gastonia, NC
November 21	**Benson, NC- JARSFEST**
February 5, 2005	Charleston ARS, SC
March 12-13	Charlotte, NC
April 17th	**RALEIGH, NC**

Courtesy of the SERA Repeater Journal
* Date is not confirmed

- Digital print-on-demand
- Both small and large format
- Color and black & white
- High-volume print solutions
- One-to-One marketing solutions
- Full service bindery and finishing

www.docusourceofnc.com

2800 Slater Road
Morrisville, NC 27560
919-459-5900
Centrally located in the heart of the Triangle!

DOCUSOURCE

relax; **docu**source it.

SKYWARN

The Central Carolina Skywarn Net Meets Tuesdays at 9:15 PM

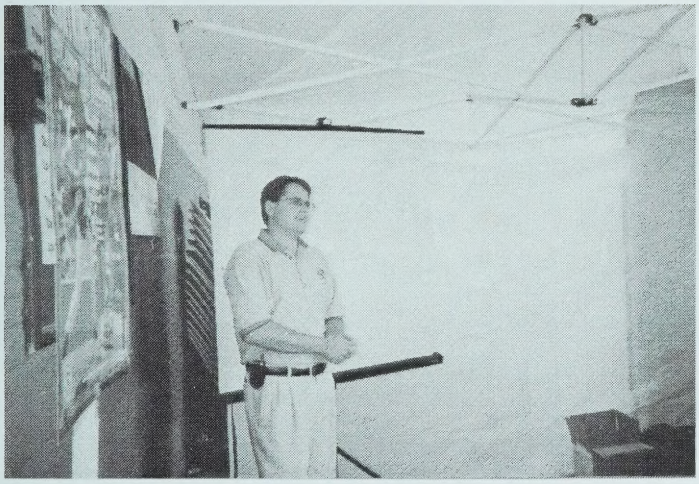
Remember to give damage reports AFTER the storms as well as DURING the storms. Website: www.ccskywarn.net

Severe weather: NWS is asking we always give reports when there's damaging winds, flooding where it doesn't normally occur, and any rotation or funnel clouds. Someone from Skywarn is usually listening. Please call on 146.88.

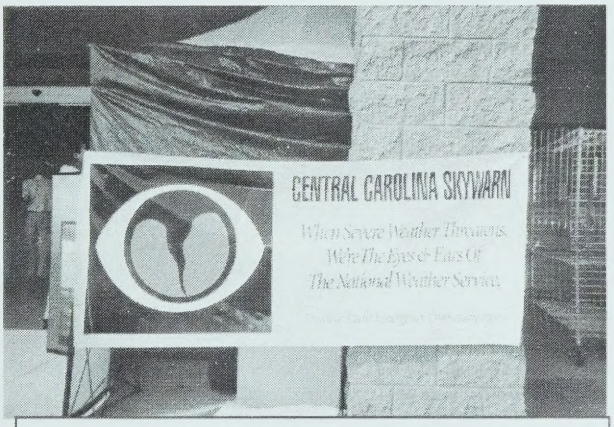
SKYWARN DINNER:

The Skywarn dinner is July 25, 2004 at Golden Corral on Glenwood Avenue at 6:30. Please join us for discussions on weather and the upcoming hurricane season.

HURRICANE SEASON IS HERE --ARE YOU READY? You know there will be hurricanes– the only question is WHERE? Are you ready? Do you have your generators ready with new gasoline? Do you have batteries? The NWS has a full list of needed items on this great website: Http://nhc.noaa.gov/haw2/english/intro.shtml



Jeff Orrock, NWS meteorologist in Raleigh is showing pictures of past hurricanes at the Hurricane Fair on June 19, 2004.



Skywarn traveling banner at the Hurricane Fair

IRLP Skywarn Worldwide is on the 440 link system on Saturday night 8:00 pm. See lists of repeaters on the Carolina 440 Ragchew ad below or www.caryncrepeater.com for more information.

CAROLINA 440 RAGCHEW

444.925 Durham
444.375 Henderson
444.775 Cary
444.875 Louisburg
Monday nights at 7:30pm
all PL tones=100.0 Hz

444.325 Holly Springs
444.150 Clayton
444.550 Benson
443.800 Snow Camp
441.725 Raleigh "hub"
Full time linked repeaters

KD4RAA/K4JDR Repeater Group

TEARA Meetings
Date: 4th Tuesday of each month
Place: The Meeting Place restaurant in Wendell
Time: 6:00P.M. for Dinner & 6:30P.M. for meeting
Sam Johnson NC4SJ

The RARS **August 2004**
Exciter
Raleigh Amateur Radio Society, Inc
PO Box 17124
Raleigh, North Carolina 27619

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION
US POSTAGE PAID
RALEIGH, NC
PERMIT NO. 2130

2*2^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^3-DIGIT 275
6/30/2005
KG4PFA MS. VIRGINIA ENZOR
303 BAYOAK DR
CARY NC 27513-4223

HURRICANE FAIR AND FIELD DAY

Dick KD4ISC with kids talking on 2 meter at the hurricane fair

Photo by Bob K4RLC

Mike WD4MB handles the logging as Gene KG4ENL looks on. Mark WD4KSE looks over his son SAM KI4FUD's shoulder as he operates the digital station.

Photo by Steve KJ4BX